

116TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8317

To encourage employer participation in the national apprenticeship system.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2020

Mrs. TRAHAN (for herself and Mr. MORELLE) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

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## A BILL

To encourage employer participation in the national  
apprenticeship system.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. AUTHORIZATION OF GRANTS, CONTRACTS, AND**  
4       **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.**

5       The Administrator of the Office of Apprenticeship of  
6       the Department of Labor shall award grants, contracts,  
7       or cooperative agreements to eligible entities on a competi-  
8       tive basis for the following purposes:

9           (1)    ENCOURAGING   EMPLOYER   PARTICIPA-  
10          TION.—To encourage employer participation in pro-  
11          grams under the national apprenticeship system—

(A) that target individuals with barriers to employment in youth apprenticeship, pre-apprenticeship, or apprenticeship programs, prioritizing nontraditional apprenticeship populations such as women, minorities, long-term unemployed, individuals with a disability, individuals with substance abuse issues, veterans, military spouses, individuals experiencing homelessness, individuals impacted by the criminal or juvenile justice system, and foster and former foster youth;

(B) that are in high-need social service-related industries, sectors, or occupations, such as direct care workers and early childhood educators;

(C) that target individuals currently or recently incarcerated; or

18 (D) among small- and medium-sized em-  
19 plovers.

1       in programs under the national apprenticeship sys-  
2       tem, which may include—

3               (A) providing financial assistance to em-  
4       ployers to support costs related to the program,  
5       such as training incumbent workers as mentors  
6       or employees supervising the on-the-job learn-  
7       ing;

8               (B) supporting the cost of related instruc-  
9       tion or wages for program participants during  
10      related instruction;

11               (C) providing technical assistance to small-  
12       and medium-sized businesses on the program  
13       registration process and leveraging other avail-  
14       able funds to support carrying out programs  
15       supported by this grant; or

16               (D) establishing or expanding partnerships  
17       to support program development or expansion,  
18       including establishing or expanding industry or  
19       sector partnerships to ensure inclusion of small-  
20       and medium-sized businesses.

21 **SEC. 2. ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.**

22       In this Act, the term “eligible entity” means—  
23               (1) a program sponsor;

- 1                         (2) a State workforce development board or
- 2                         State workforce agency, or a local workforce develop-
- 3                         ment board or local workforce development agency;
- 4                         (3) an education and training provider, or a
- 5                         consortium thereof;
- 6                         (4) if the applicant is in a State with a State
- 7                         apprenticeship agency, such State apprenticeship
- 8                         agency;
- 9                         (5) an Indian Tribe or Tribal organization;
- 10                        (6) an industry or sector partnership, a group
- 11                        of employers, a trade association, or a professional
- 12                        association that sponsors or participates in a pro-
- 13                        gram under the national apprenticeship system;
- 14                        (7) a Governor;
- 15                        (8) a labor organization or joint labor manage-
- 16                        ment organization; or
- 17                        (9) a qualified intermediary.

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